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Headteacher: Matthew Dampier

## November 2018 Newsletter

Dear Parents

### 100 years

As you may be aware the school has been actively involved in commemorating the 100 years of the end of WW1 with a variety of enrichment projects. Our white flower peace art work (that we made in the summer term) can be seen as part of an installation at Winchester Cathedral. We have studied the war, the role of women and have written some emotive letters from the perspective of someone left 'behind' whilst her husband fought and lost their life at the Battle of the Somme. We have learnt about inventions made during WW1 including the tea bag! From the project based on family research we made memory pockets using tea bags and stitched them together to make a world of reflection and memory.

Father Tony will be in school on Thursday to lead a service of remembrance and to present the school with a wreath. Finally as you are aware all the children have made two stunning WW1 poppies out of glass. One will be used in school to make memorial / spiritual windows of reflection and one is to go home. They are all ready and can be collected this week in time for Armistice Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>.



### Fundraising

Dear parents, could you possibly take a minute to register for the Aviva Community Fund - you get 10 votes which you can allocate to the projects which have been submitted by various organisations throughout the UK. FODS have submitted an application for the school to engage the Hampshire County Council Landscape strategy team to run workshops with children, teachers, PTA, governors etc to develop plans for the redevelopment of the school's grounds.

Voting closes on the 20th November and it is the projects with the most votes which get the grants. Please do share with friends, colleagues, family - anyone who you think might take a minute to vote. View the project details at...

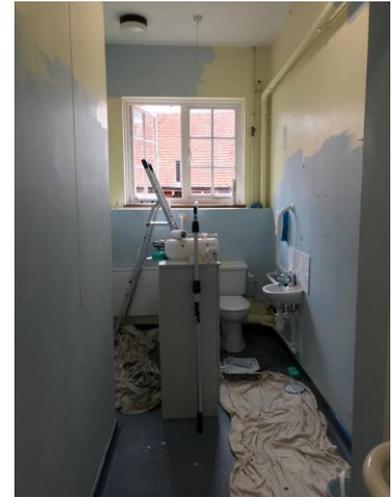
<https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/voting/project/view/4-2205>



## Maths workshop – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 9:15 – 10:15

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent Parents Evenings, SATs / Calshot meeting, English workshop and Year 2 Open Morning. A lot has been going on and it is great to see lots of you in school.

We have one more workshop in school, this time led by Mr Todd (Maths manager / Year 5/6 teacher) and Mrs Jenny Smith (Interim Deputy Headteacher, Year 5/6 leader and Assessment manager) which is our Maths Workshop. The format will be the same as the English workshop: Short presentation in the hall based upon the teaching and learning of mathematics at Droxford Years 3 – 6 followed by an opportunity to work with your child in class. Please complete and return the attendance slip at the end of this newsletter or email the school office if you wish to attend.



## Autumn Clean Dig Day

A huge thank you to all who popped in to school to help on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October and offer their services for our Autumn Clean Day. We had (including children) over 35 people in school making light work of tasks that would take us weeks to do.

These tasks included: giving the willow dome a much needed trim; painting the disabled toilet; emptying and rationalising the big stock cupboard; auditing and tidying lots of (English books) resources; completely tidying, weeding and cutting back the entire school grounds; attending to the quiet area; painting the Rainbow Room and eating delicious pizza ... oh and having a big bonfire. Bushes, shrubs, unruly plants, nettles and unwanted branches went on the bonfire.

We are all so grateful. Over the past three years we have achieved so much with an ever changing cohort of helpers. In terms of strategic finances, renovations, site management and gardening your support is invaluable. We also think the job is of a better quality as there is lots of expertise within our community all achieved during thoroughly enjoyable community spirited days.

Next Spring we would like to repaint Meonstoke and / or Newtown Base, the school reception area and my office. If you would be interested in setting up a painting crew we could always achieve these tasks anytime of the year if people aren't available on the specified days. Please contact me via the school office.

In the meantime – **Thank You** to everyone who helped out recently – you know who you are as we do!



## **Behaviour in and out of school**

Behaviour is in the main, excellent at Droxford. We are though, endeavouring to maintain the highest of expectations in behaviours in and around the school. This means whilst walking around the school; respecting the school environment including the toilets; walking to and from the school bus, behaviour on the bus and also not running to the bus to get on (in an unsafe manner – particularly at the Bucks Head in the mornings); at clubs (including Breakfast club), when lining up to go in to school, entering and exiting the hall for assemblies and also whilst eating lunch and finally at play and lunchtimes.

And finally and most importantly within class – positive learning behaviours have an impact on outcomes and an enjoyable school day. Like I said we are endeavouring to support, challenge and reward for positive behaviours and effort and really appreciate your support in helping us to maintain the high levels of positive behaviours in and out of school. Thank you.

## **Staffing**

As mentioned at the end of last term Mrs Jackie Proctor retired due to ill health. She had been working at our school for over 27 years! In that time she worked with thousands of children at our school and made a real positive difference with her kindness, dedication and skilled vocation. We still keep in touch with Mrs Proctor and miss her presence in school. We are planning to present her with a gift before Christmas – anyone wishing to contribute in any small way can do so by contacting the school or just dropping off contributions in to the school office.

Unfortunately Ms Jacobs has been signed off until mid-January. The job share partnership of Mrs Davey and Mrs Lockett will continue in Droxford Base until further notice.

## **Library**

Mrs Daniells and her team of Year 6 library monitors have been working hard this term to ensure the smooth running of the school library. Whilst recently doing an audit of the books they noticed that a number are overdue and also an alarming amount appear to be missing. They would really appreciate your help in getting the library's stock levels back up to where they should be by firstly returning any overdue books and secondly having a hunt around at home to see if you can find any books that belong to the school.

It should be really obvious if you have a school library book as they are covered in sticky back plastic and have the schools name stamped in the front. If your child has an overdue book they will be coming home before the end of the week with a letter which will state which one we would like returned as soon as possible. We obviously want the children to enjoy using the library and actively encourage them to borrow books but we do also need them back especially at a time when budgets are tight. Mrs Daniells would like to thank you in anticipation for helping her with her quest!



FODS are off to a great start this year with lots of new members joining and a friendly coffee cafe raising £143. Next week is Film Night and we are screening Paddington 2 so please get your tickets ASAP. The children always enjoy settling down in front of a film with friends and it's even more fun at School.



Early in December we put on a school Disco featuring DJ CrazyM, Tombola, Raffle and the ever popular Shopping Night!

FODS appreciate all the support from families because ultimately it benefits our children. It's also a great place to meet people and build our community. We are always open to welcoming new members and volunteers so please feel free to get in touch.

Thanks from the FODS team.

## Recycling

In a bid to recycle and provide a new (albeit small) funding stream, we have a new clothing bank set up in our staff carpark. Any unwanted clothes, bedding and shoes can be bagged up and deposited in the same manner as other clothing banks. Please leave items in the school reception or place them in yourselves – but not by children due to its proximity to the carpark. I asked the company about its ethics and they replied...

*...As promised, I have asked your question regarding monitoring the supply chain and how we ensure our textiles get to the people that need it.*

*Our Director vets a buyer before we agree to work with them. There are certain checks that are made on what they pay their work force, hours worked and who the end consumer is. Our current buyers sell our items at discounted rate to poorer families.*

*We have received a Code Of Conduct Award form The Salvation Army, recognising our outstanding dedication to upholding the code of conduct values including the ethical handling of goods and minimising the remaining waste fraction.*

*In order to receive the certification we allowed The Salvation Army full access to our client list and our policies. They were satisfied with how we operate and manage the supply chain...*

**Astra Recycling Ltd**

## Festive dress up day: Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> December

On the subject of ethics, we won't be having a Christmas jumper day this year. We will be having a festive colour dress up day instead, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas lunch day), with a suggested donation for the Meon Valley food bank, being a kind, caring and festive cause this year. If your child already has a Christmas jumper then please wear this but we don't want people to go out and buy jumpers for the one day – save your money.



And finally...

We are all going to dress up and be spotty (instead of school uniform) to support Children in Need, for a £1 donation on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November.



And a big thank you from all of the Droxford Junior School team for all your support

Best wishes

Matthew Dampier  
Headteacher

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**Mathematics Workshop – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018**

I will be attending the workshop in the school hall at 9:15 followed by an in class session with my child(ren).

Child..... Learning Base / Year .....

Name: ..... Date: .....

